



LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

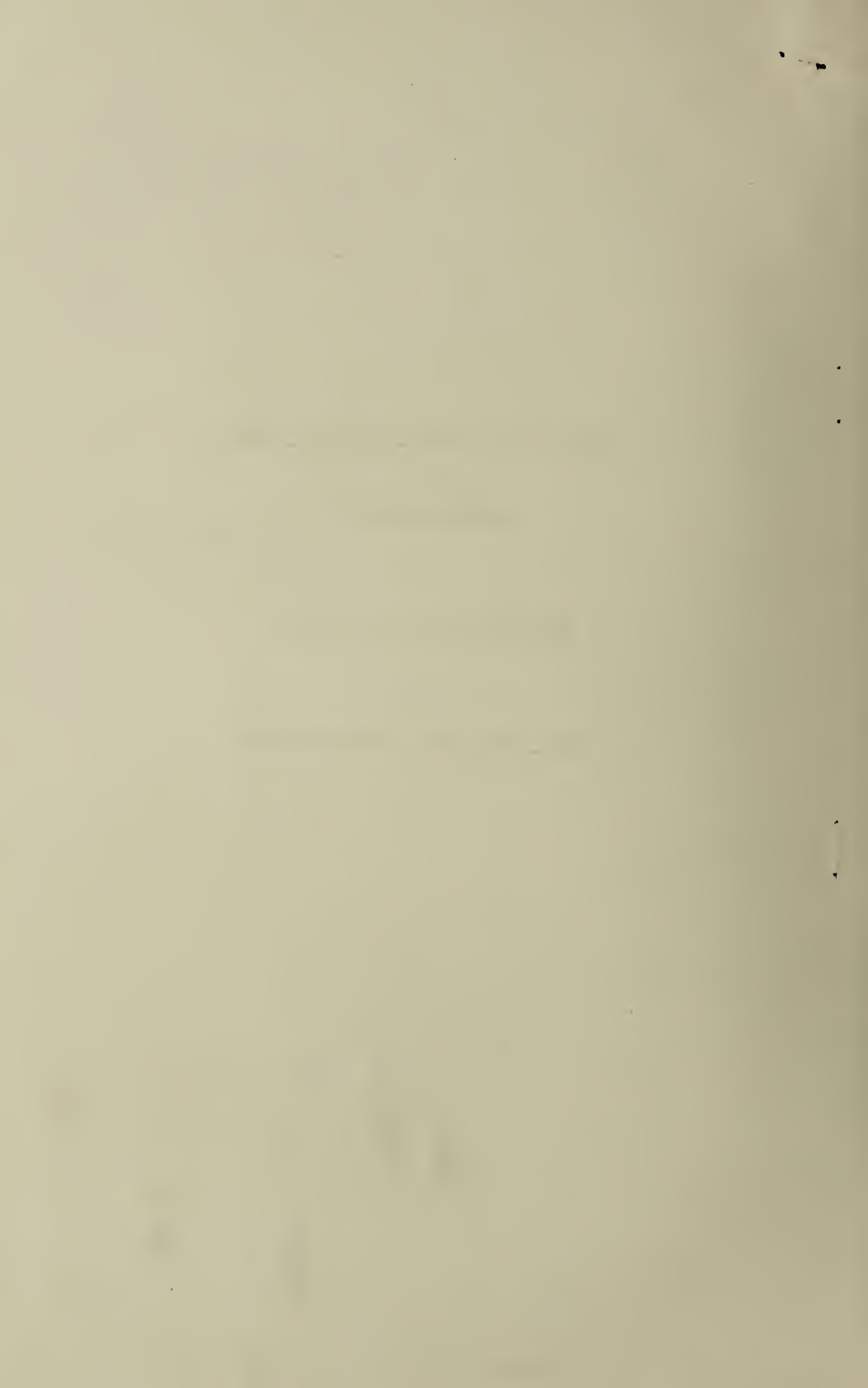
ANNUAL REPORT.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1948.



Medical Officer of Health	- Herbert Newsome, M.R., B.S.
Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector	- G.K.Foster, M.S.I.A., A.I.W.E.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector	- B.Barker, M.S.I.A., A.R.San. I.
Housing Assistant	- W.H.Green.
Housing Inspectors	- M.M.Anderson and J.Maggs.
Engineering Assistants.	- G.Kneen. & B.G.Foster.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Long Ashton Rural District Council.

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the District during the past year. The information therein is, as far as possible, in conformity with the requirements of the Minister of Health, as laid down in circular 3/49 dated 19th January, 1949.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area.....	46,602 acres.
Population (census 1931).....	20,378.
Registrar General's estimate of the population to the middle of 1948.....	24,310.
Number of inhabited houses to the end of 1948.....	7,219.
Rateable value.....	£176,657.
Sum represented by a penny rate....	£710.

There are no important changes to note as regards the social conditions and general characteristics of the area.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Live Births:</u>	Legitimate	197	205	402	Birth rate (per 1,000 of the estimated population): 16.8
	Illegitimate	6	11	17	
		<u>203</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>419</u>	
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Still Births:</u>	Legitimate	1	3	4	Still birth rate (per 1,000 live and still births) 16.4
	Illegitimate	2	1	3	
		<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Deaths.</u>		132	116	248	Death rate (per 1,000 of the estimated population) 10.2.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age: Total 5 (of which 1 was illegitimate).

All these deaths were due to premature birth or congenital defects and abnormalities.

Death rate of all infants per 1,000 births:.....	11.9.
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 live births:..	9.5.
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	58.8.



Deaths from Puerperal causes: Nil.

Deaths from measles (all ages):.....1  
" " whooping cough.....Nil  
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....Nil  
" " Cancer (all varieties).....44

The total number of births (419) is slightly smaller than last year (434).

The birth rate (16.8) is also lower than last year (18.1).

The birth rate for England and Wales this year is 17.9.

The total number of deaths (248) is considerably smaller than in 1947 (317).

The death rate (10.2) is much lower than last year (13.2).

The death rate for England and Wales this year is 10.8.

The infant mortality rate (11.9) is considerably lower than in 1947 (27.6) which however, was an extremely low rate.

The infant mortality rate of England and Wales this year is 34.0.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH.

Tuberculosis	15	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2
Syphilitic diseases	1	Other digestive diseases	5
Influenza	4	Nephritis	7
Measles	1	Premature birth	1
Cancer	44	Congenital defects, Malformat-	
Intercranial vascular		ions of injuries at birth	4
lesions	27	Suicide	2
Heart diseases	73	Road traffic accidents	5
Other diseases of the		Other violent causes	3
circulatory system	7	All other causes	24
Bronchitis	12		
Pneumonia	7		
Other respiratory diseases	4		

#### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

##### Notifiable diseases.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Notifications.</u>	<u>Removals to Hospital.</u>	<u>Death.</u>
Scarlet fever	10	4	-
Diphtheria	3	3	-
Pneumonia	12	5	7
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)	2	2	-
Acute anterior poliomyelitis	3	3	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	1	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	-
Measles	198	2	1
Whooping Cough	73	2	-
Totals.	306	23	8

All the cases notified as diphtheria proved not to be that disease but one tonsillitis and two simple laryngitis. Of the cases notified as poliomyelitis, one proved to be a mild case of the disease, one encephalomyelitis due to mumps and one tonsillitis with cerebral symptoms. The case notified as possibly cerebro-spinal fever turned out to be not that disease. A case of acute pemphigus, although not notified, was removed to Hospital for treatment and made a good recovery.



There has been no real case of diphtheria in the district for the last two years. Scarlet fever has decreased considerably in recent years and those cases that have occurred have been of much milder type than in the past, but measles and whooping cough have been very prevalent during the last two years.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

There has been a steady decline in the number of cases of diphtheria, undoubtedly the result of the immunisation of children campaign. Children under 5 years of age are dealt with by private medical practitioners and those of school age (5 to 15) by the County School Medical Officers. A reinforcing injection is given to children inoculated as infants, when they commence school life. The number of children immunised in this district during the year is as follows:-

<u>Under five</u> <u>years of age.</u>	<u>Five to fif--</u> <u>teen years.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
408	39	447

The number of children who have had a secondary or reinforcing injection.....229

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>Notifications.</u>		<u>Removals to</u> <u>Sanatoria.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Respiratory	20	12	4	9	5	8
Non-Respiratory	2	5	-	1	1	1
Total.	22	17	4	10	6	9

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN AGE PERIODS.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>Notifications.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
1st year								
1 - 5 years	1							
5 - 15 years				1				
15 - 25 years	5	5	1	2	1	3		
25 - 35 years	8	1			1	2		1
35 - 45 years	2	2		1	1	1	1	
45 - 55 years	2	1	1			1		
55 - 65 years	2	3		1	2	1		
65 & over								
Total	20	12	2	5	5	8	1	1

The number of notifications has fallen from 53 last year to 39 this year, but the number of deaths has increased by 3. The need of sanatorium beds is still greater than the supply and the poor housing accommodation of tuberculosis cases in this district leaves much to be desired in many cases. Tuberculosis dispensaries for this area are at the Central Clinic, Tower Hill, Bristol, and at Old Street, Clevedon.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory facilities are provided at The County Hall, Taunton, and at the Bristol Public Health Laboratory at Canynge Hall, Whatley Road, Bristol. Hospital treatment for infectious diseases is provided at Ham Green Hospital. The arrangements for medical and surgical hospital treatment is now under the control of the Regional Hospital Boards, and ambulance facilities and nursing in the homes are dealt with by the County Authority as are also the treatment Centres and Clinics. Legislation in the area is unchanged.



# W A T E R S U P P L Y

- I). (a). Generally, the water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quality, but some districts still have to rely on contaminated wells and other unsatisfactory sources and further improvements are necessary.
- (b). There has been no appreciable shortage of water although some areas are in need of a more dependable and constant supply.

Several main extensions have been carried out during the last two or three years and there are proposals for further improvements in the Council's post-war programme.

II. Twenty-eight samples of water from main supplies were bacteriologically examined, the results being as follows:-

(a). Supplies owned by the Council.

1. Winford Parochial Supply. Raw water. No treatment installed.  
4 samples taken - 3 excellent, 1 fair.
2. Dundry Temporary Supply. Raw water. No treatment installed.  
3 samples taken. All excellent.
3. Clapton-in-Gordano Temporary Supply. Raw water passing through crushed limestone. 3 samples taken - all excellent.
4. Weston-in-Gordano Parochial Supply.  
Raw water. No treatment installed. 3 samples taken.  
All excellent.
5. Yatton Parochial Supply. Treatment by chlorination.  
2 samples treated water excellent; 1 sample raw water excellent and 1 fair.  
1 sample as taken on 12th July and submitted to the Somerset County Laboratory for Chemical Analysis, the report being as follows:-

From borehole.

Physical examination. Colour. Normal (Equivalent to distilled water).

Appearance. Clear.

Taste. None.

Smell. None.

General Chemical Examination

Reaction pH. 7.3

Parts per million.

Free carbon dioxide as Co <sub>2</sub>	22.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N.	0.002.
Albuminoid " " N.	0.006
Nitrous " " N.	Nil.
Nitric " " N.	4.0.

( Cont: )



Hardness (Titration with potassium sterate solution  
as  $\text{CaCO}_3$ ).

Temporary.	320
Permanent.	45
Permanganate figure (4 hrs. $80^\circ\text{F}$ ) as 0. 0.3.	
Alkalinity, as $\text{CaCO}_3$ ,	350
Total solids.	496

Mineral Analyses.

Calcium, as Ca.	118
Magnesium, as Mg.	Nil.
Sodium, as Na.	68
Carbonate, as $\text{CO}_3$ .	210.
Chloride, as Cl.	24
Sulphate, as $\text{SO}_4$ .	45
Nitrate, as $\text{NO}_3$ .	18
Iron.	Nil.

(b). Private piped supplies.

1. Bucklands Batch supply, Nailsea.  
Raw water. No treatment installed. 1 sample unsatisfactory, and 1 sample fair. Source of supply abandoned during the year in favour of main supply.
2. Lodge Lane Supply, Wraxall.  
Raw water. No treatment installed. 3 samples unsatisfactory and 2 fair.
3. Tyntesfield Estate Supply, Wraxall.  
Raw water. No treatment installed. 2 samples taken - both excellent.
4. Black Rock Quarries Supply, North Weston.  
Raw water. 2 samples taken, 1 excellent and 1 unsatisfactory.

III. Contamination by lead.  
No action has been necessary in this respect.

ACTION IN RESPECT OF CONTAMINATION.

- IV. Bucklands Batch Supply, Nailsea.  
This supply, from the coal measures, was the cause of some concern as unsatisfactory samples were being obtained periodically.  
The Bristol Waterworks Company were consulted and a scheme for a bulk supply, from their mains, was prepared and eventually agreed to by the Owner.  
The old source has, therefore, been abandoned and the thirty five consumers are being supplied with main water.



V. particulars of the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from water mains.

<u>PARISH.</u>	Area in Acres.	Approx. Pop: at 31.12.49.	No. of houses.	No. of houses supplied direct from mains.	No. of houses supplied from standpipe.	No. of Population Supplied direct from mains.	No. of Population supplied from standpipes.
Abbots Leigh.	2260	775	182	161	-	676	-
Backwell	2929	2000	509	424	28	1484	98
Barrow Guiney	2064	600	99	30	8	355	28
Bishopsworth	796	2080	608	052	20	2412	74
Brookley	1148	300	81	71	3	262	11
Clapton-in-Gordano	1355	180	65	11	12	29	32
Dundry.	2897	925	244	13	24	40	89
Easton-in-Gordano.	1705	2000	827	677	46	2098	142
Flax Bourton.	030	200	66	56	6	168	18
Kenn.	030	330	66	25	-	125	-
Kingston Seymour.	2652	260	59	2	1	9	5
Long Ashton.	4190	3060	861	815	19	2952	36
Nailsea.	2800	2620	709	515	20	1751	88
North Weston.	1003	1170	466	75	247	187	617
Portbury.	2045	440	120	68	6	231	20
Tickenham.	-	625	109	153	12	505	39
Talton-in-Gordano.	906	240	96	33	-	82	-
Teston-in-Gordano.	708	190	66	41	13	114	36
Tinford.	3340	1250	307	165	31	660	124
Traxall.	4125	1820	520	446	2	1561	7
Yatton.	5002	3275	873	836	27	3093	99
	46002	25400	7219	5269.	531	18803	1563



# EXTENSIONS OR IMPROVEMENTS OF SUPPLIES DURING THE YEAR:-

1. Abbots Leigh.  
Extension of mains by Bristol Waterworks Company to Blackmoor Road and Pill Road. 12½% guarantee by Council.
2. Winford.  
Extension of Council's Winford Supply mains to the Harpers Batch and Hanging Grove areas of the Parish.
3. Wraxall.  
Extension of Main by Portishead Water Company, to The Chantry, Failand. 12½% guarantee by the Council.

## POST WAR PROPOSALS.

<u>Priority Group.</u>	<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Scheme.</u>	<u>Estimated Cost (1948 Prices).</u>
1.	<u>Yatton.</u>	New borehole, pumping plant, extension of service reservoir, and pumping station to Council's Yatton Parochial supply. Public Inquiry postponed pending negotiations with the Bristol Waterworks Company as to a bulk supply being provided by them. Negotiations proceeding at end of year.	£15,100.
1.	<u>Kingston Seymour.</u>	Extension of Council's Yatton supply to village. Part of this extension to meet requirements of new Housing Scheme approved by Ministry of Health at a tender price of £2,027. Work about to commence at end of year.	£14,000.
1.	<u>Kenn.</u>	Extension of main from Council's Yatton supply towards Kenn Court Farm. Scheme approved and work in hand at end of the year.	£1,564.
1.	<u>Backwell.</u>	Extension of main by Council for bulk supply from Axbridge Rural District Council to supply several dwellings at Downside.	£200.
1.	<u>Easton-in-Gordano.</u>	Extension of main by Portishead Water Company to Haberfield. Scheme approved and awaiting execution by Company.	£2,000.
1.	<u>Barrow Gurney.</u>	Extension of main by Bristol Waterworks Company to Barrow Hill and district.	£7,274.
1.	<u>Dundry.</u>	Provision of mains to Dundry for bulk supply from Bristol Waterworks Company.	£35,591.



POST WAR PROPOSALS (Cont:).

2.     North  
       Weston.             Provision of main supply  
                              by Portishead Water Company  
                              to replace existing private stand-  
                              pipe supply to Redcliffe Bay area. £21,218.
3.     Clapton-in-  
       Gordano.            Extension of main to Village  
                              by Portishead Water Company.             £ 7,000.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(Extension of sewers, new works, etc. during year.).

Backwell Sewage Works.

A new effluent drain was laid from these works during the year.

No new sewers, other than minor extensions to new housing estates, and no new sewage disposal works, were constructed during the year.

The following works are included in Priority Group 1 of the Council's List of proposed sewerage and sewage disposal Schemes:-

<u>SCHEME.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u> <u>(1948 prices).</u>
<u>Yatton.</u> New pumping plant and rising main at Yatton Sewage Pumping Station.             Permission to obtain tenders has been given by the Ministry of Health and a starting date of 15th March, 1949, allocated.	£11,900.
<u>Portbury.</u> Sewage scheme to village in conjunction with new housing estate.	£5,200.
<u>Flax</u> <u>Bourton.</u> Improvements to Cambridge House Sewage disposal works.	£1,200.
<u>Nailsea.</u> Sewerage and sewage disposal to parish.	£83,000.
<u>Kenn.</u> Sewerage and sewage disposal in conjunction with new housing estate. Scheme prepared and submitted to Ministry of Health and County Council for approval.	£4,800.



## RIVERS and STREAMS.

Complaints regarding the disposal of trade wastes from a cider factory were investigated and the firm concerned advised to seek expert advice as the effluent being discharged into a river was not altogether satisfactory. A scheme for new treatment works and filters was subsequently prepared and, as a temporary measure, the existing land irrigation treatment was improved and extended.

A few instances have occurred of house drainage discharging into streams and ditches; these have received appropriate attention.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Your District is very free from smoke and grit nuisances and no action has been necessary.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Two new house refuse collecting vehicles were delivered during the latter part of the year and preliminary arrangements made for the collection of house refuse and salvage to be undertaken by the Council's own vehicles and labour as and from the 1st April, 1949.

## H O U S I N G.

Provision of new housing accommodation during the year:-

	<u>Houses erected during year.</u>		<u>Houses in course of erection at 31st. December '48.</u>		<u>Conversion to flats or dwellings.</u>
	<u>Perm.</u>	<u>Tempy.</u>	<u>Perm:</u>	<u>Tempy.</u>	
Local Authority.	104	Nil.	58	Nil.	73
Private Enterprise.	14	Nil.	19	Nil.	24
	118	Nil.	77	Nil	97

## ERECTION OF HOUSES BY COUNCIL.

The location of the houses completed and in course of erection is summarised as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Houses Completed.</u>	<u>Houses under construction at 31.12.48.</u>
Backwell.	14	18
Bishopsworth.	2	-
Brockley.	4	-
Clapton-in-Gordano.	4	-
Dundry.	-	16
Easton-in-Gordano.	40	4
Flax Bourton.	4	-
Kingston Seymour.	-	6
North Weston.	4	2
Winford.	16	-
Wraxall.	4	-
Yatton.	12	12
Total.	104	58



A further 32 houses were included in approved tenders, but not yet commenced, at the end of the year.

### HOUSES erected by PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

At the end of the year, the position was as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Houses or Bungalows Completed.</u>	<u>Houses or Bungalows under Construction.</u>
Abbots Leigh.	-	1
Backwell.	2	1
Bishopsworth.	5	-
Dundry.	-	2
Long Ashton.	6	2
Nailsea.	-	2
Tickenham.	-	6
Winford.	-	1
Wraxall.	-	2
Yatton.	1	2
	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>

### Housing Accommodation by Conversion of Existing Buildings. (Local Authority).

During the year a further 73 temporary dwellings were provided by the conversion of ex-American Army Hospital buildings at Tyntesfield, Wraxall, and by the adaptation of huts at Brockley and Easton-in-Gordano ex-Army Camps.

### Rural Housing Survey.

The survey proceeded during the first half of the year with two male inspectors and one female typist engaged almost full time on the work.

In July, however, it was found necessary to temporarily suspend the survey so that the staff employed on this work could be used in carrying out new duties in connection with the Town and County Planning Act, 1947.

At the suspension of the survey, a total of 2,307 houses of a rateable value of £16 and under, had been inspected out of some 2,805 houses to be surveyed.

The position at the 30th June 1948 is summarised as follows:-

Number of houses inspected and recorded.	...	2307
Satisfactory in all respects.	...	627
Houses with minor defects.		385
Houses requiring repairs or structural alterations.		988
Houses suitable for reconditioning under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, or for acquisition.		574
Houses unfit for human habitation.		307

The location of the unfit houses is as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Unfit Houses.</u>	<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Unfit Houses.</u>
Abots Leigh.	3	Backwell	16
Brockley.	3	Dundry.	23
Easton-in-Gordano.	63	Flax Bourton.	8
Kenn.	7	Kingston Seymour.	10

(Cont:)



### Location of unfit houses (Cont:)

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Unfit houses.</u>	<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Unfit houses.</u>
Long Ashton.	31.	Nailsea.	17
Tickenham.	17.	Walton-in-Gordano.	15
Winford.	25.	Wraxall.	24
Yatton.	45.		

Total 307.

### Housing Needs and Conditions of the District.

Many houses are still required to meet all the demands, but the completion of a further 104 permanent houses and the adaptation of a further 73 temporary dwellings has made it possible to re-house a considerable number of families living under unsatisfactory conditions.

The number of applicants for Council houses at the 31st. December, 1948 was 630.

30 unfit houses which are subject to demolition orders and undertakings are still occupied under temporary licence.

### Inspection of Dwelling houses during the Year.

- (1). (a). Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects..... 439  
(Under Public Health or Housing Acts.).
- (b). Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 491.
- (2). (a). Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932..... 283
- (b). Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 301.
- (3). Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 33
- (4). Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 323

### Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

- (a). Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers..... 18
- (b). Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action..... NIL.

### Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

- (A). Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1930:-
- (1). Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. NIL.



(2). Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

- |     |  |        |
|-----|--|--------|
| (a) | By Owners.                               | - NIL. |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners. | NIL.   |

(B). Proceedings under public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses, in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. 2

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

- |     |  |      |
|-----|--|------|
| (a) | By Owners.                               | 2    |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners. | NIL. |

(C). Proceedings under Section 11, 13 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 9

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. NIL.

(3)(a) Clearance orders made. NIL.  
(b) Number of houses involved. NIL.

(4) Clearance orders confirmed. Nil.

- |     |                                    |      |
|-----|------------------------------------|------|
| (a) | Number of houses involved.         | Nil. |
| (b) | Number of houses demolished.       | Nil. |
| (c) | Number of houses to be demolished. | 32   |

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit. Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR  
THE YEAR 1948.

<u>INSPECTIONS.</u>	No. of complaints received during the year.	72
	No. of houses, premises, etc. inspected.	1476
	No. of houses disinfected, or to which disinfectants were supplied.	30
	No. of visits in connection with cases of infectious disease.	46
	Tuberculosis disinfections.	26
	No. of cases of bedding disinfected.	35
	No. of scabies baths arranged for infected persons.....	-
	No. of verminous premises cleansed.	-
<u>SEWERS.</u>	No. of sewers repaired or cleansed.	9
	No. of visits to sewage works and installations.	165



<u>HOUSE DRAINS.</u>	No. of existing houses connected to sewers.	5
	No. of house drains repaired or cleansed.	26
	No. of drains re-laid.	12
	No. of new piped drains laid.	226

<u>EARTH CLOSETS.</u>	No. of privies abolished.	-
<u>WATER CLOSETS,</u>	No. of cesspools re-constructed or cleansed.	20
<u>AND CESSPOOLS.</u>	No. of new cesspools.	56
	No. of cesspools abolished.	4
	No. of new water closets.	219
	No. of new water closet pans or repairs.	11
	No. of new earth closets constructed.	1
	No. of earth closets converted into water closets.	1

<u>NEW DWELLINGS.</u>	No. of new permanent houses completed and occupied.	118
	No. of new houses supplied by Company's water.	118
	No. of new houses supplied by wells or cisterns.	-

<u>WATER SUPPLY.</u>	No. of samples of water taken for examination.	47
	No. of existing houses supplied with Company's water.	89
	No. of new wells.	-
	No. of wells or cisterns cleansed or repaired.	2
	No. of contaminated wells closed.	56
	No. of dairies, cowsheds and milkshops inspected.	97
	No. of bakehouses inspected.	12
	No. of slaughterhouses inspected.	-
	No. of factories inspected.	33
	No. of statutory notices served.	11
	Ministry of Health inquiries held.	-
	Legal proceedings taken.	5

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Owing to the numerous other duties and the shortage of suitably trained technical staff, it has not been possible to carry out frequent inspections of factories in accordance with Sections 1 to 7 of the Act. Every effort has, however, been made to require the remedy of any sanitary defects when reported by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948 ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT 1937.

#### PART 1 of THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)				
(1). Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	15	15	-	-

(Cont)



(11). Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	41	30	-	-
(111) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	56	45	-	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.  (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7).
	Found. (3)	Remedied. (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred. By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness(S.1). Overcrowding (S.2.) Unreasonable temperature(S.3). Inadequate ventilation(S.4). Ineffective drainage of floors.(S.6.) Sanitary conveniences.(S.7). (a).insufficient. (b).Unsuitable or defective. (c).Not separate for sexes. Other offences against the Act. (Not including offences relating to Outwork).		1		1	
Total.		1		1	

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No infestations were found in dwelling houses during the year and consequently no action with regard to eradication was necessary.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following food was condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption:-

<u>MEAT.</u>		<u>OTHER FOODS.</u>	
Beef.	94½.lbs.	Canned Milk.	129 tins.
Bacon.	6½.lbs.	Canned fish.	6 tins.
Canned Meat.	17. tins.	Canned fruit and vegetables.	25 tins.
		Jam.	15.lbs.

No. of licenced slaughter-houses in District.	2.
No. of registered slaughter-houses in District.	9.
No. of slaughter-houses in use where horses are slaughtered for human consumption.	NIL.
	(Cont).



No. of registered knackers yards in District.

NIL.

The slaughter-houses are still out of use owing to centralised slaughtering under the control of the Ministry of Food taking place at the Weston-super-Mare and Bristol abattoirs. Consequently no carcasses of animals for sale for human consumption were inspected at the time of slaughter.

Frequent inspections have been made of shops and places where food is prepared, and appropriate action taken to improve conditions where necessary.

#### ICE CREAM.

No. of premises registered for:-

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1). Manufacture and sale of ice cream. | 6.  |
| (2). Sale of ice cream.                 | 19. |

Frequent visits were paid and many samples taken during the summer months with the object of improving the standard of the conditions generally under which the ice cream was manufactured and sold. One manufacturer erected the necessary building and installed heat treatment plant and apparatus. It is noticed that there is a tendency for small ice cream retailers to resort to the cold mix method of manufacture or to acquire the ice cream in bulk form from a large manufacturer. The sale of prepacked ice cream also appears to be on the increase.

#### FOOD POISONING.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year.

#### M I L K.

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| (1). No. of registered dairy farms.  | 355. |
| (11). No. of retailers.  | 112. |
| (111). No. of producer-retailers included in (11).                         | 87.  |
| (IV). No. of producers of tuberculin-tested milk.                          | 55.  |
| (V). No. of producers of accredited milk.                                  | 21.  |
| (VI). No. of licenced pasturisation plants.                                | NIL. |
| (VII). No. of heat treatment plants not included in (VI).                  | NIL. |
| (VIII). No. of heat treatment plants authorised by<br>Ministry of Food.    | NIL. |
| (IX). No. of licences for Tuberculin Tested bottling<br>establishments.    | 4.   |
| (X). No. of licences for Accredited bottling<br>establishments.            | NIL. |
| (XI). No. of Supplementary licences for sale of<br>Tuberculin Tested milk. | 1.   |
| (XII). No. of Supplementary licences for sale of<br>Pasturised milk.       | 1.   |

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I am pleased to report that the health and sanitary condition of the district continues to be satisfactory. Though the work of the Public Health Department increases every year, the staff under the able direction of Mr Foster, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, continues to cope with it to my and, I trust, your Council's complete satisfaction.

A large amount of the department's time is occupied by



the housing problem and there has been considerable progress this year in the completion of new permanent houses and the commencement and partial construction of others. The provision of a number of temporary dwellings, chiefly by the conversion of former army huts, has also eased the situation a good deal but there is a long list of applicants for houses still to be dealt with and there are many insanitary dwellings to be either demolished or put into a proper state of repair; so the end of this problem is still, I fear, some distance off.

Progress has also been made with water supply and sewage disposal schemes in several parishes, though there are some of those planned or proposed that have not yet commenced. There are reasons for hope that the shortage of labour and materials which has been for a long time largely responsible for the delay, may soon be overcome and that future progress will be more rapid.

In conclusion, I desire to thank your Council for its continued confidence, and consideration to me in the performance of my duties, and the Officers of the Health and other departments for their welcome help and co-operation.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant.

HERBERT NEWSOME.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,  
Flax Bourton,  
Near Bristol.

September 1st. 1949.

